

Message Text

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67-61
ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 INSE-00 SCA-01 MMS-03 SS-20

SPC-03 PER-05 ABF-01 /047 W
----- 127947

R 301725Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5655

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CVIS, CS
SUBJECT: EXPANDED PAROLE PROGRAM FOR CUBAN REFUGEES

REF: (A) SAN JOSE 3872 AND (B) STATE 224298

1. EMBASSY WOULD NEED AUTHORITY AND FUNDS TO EMPLOY SERVICES OF TWO MORE LOCAL EMPLOYEES FOR APPROXIMATELY 90 DAYS TO COMPLETE PROCESSING OF ESTIMATED 300 - 400 POTENTIAL EPP APPLICANTS. PRESENT STAFF IS FULLY COMMITTED EXISTING CONSULAR WORKLOAD.

2. THIS PROJECTION OF OUR REQUIREMENTS IS BASED IN PART ON OUR EXPECTATION THAT ONCE WE START PROCESSING ANY CUBAN REFUGEES WE WILL QUICKLY BE CONFRONTED WITH THEM ALL. (EMBASSY HAS ALREADY HAD NUMEROUS INQUIRIES ABOUT NEW PROGRAM.) JUST TO ADMINISTER THIS ONSLAUGHT--EVEN IF ONLY TO RECEIVE THEM AND ARRANGE FUTURE APPOINTMENTS--WOULD PUT UNACCEPTABLE BURDEN ON PRESENT STAFF AND CREATE ADVERSE PUBLIC RELATION PROBLEM VIS-A-VIS OUR REGULAR CUSTOMERS. POOR PHYSICAL LAYOUT OF CONSULAR SECTION WITH ONLY ONE DOOR ON STREET AGGRAVATES OUR PROBLEM.

3. PARAKEET CHECKS HAVE NOT BEEN REQUESTED PREVIOUSLY FOR MAJORITY OF POTENTIAL APPLICANTS SINCE ACCORDING TO DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTIONS THE EMBASSY WAS NOT TO REQUEST PARAKEET CHECKS UNTIL APPLICANTS HAD QUALIFIED FOR VISA
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ISSUANCE AND THEIR FILES HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM

MADRID.

4. FOR REASONS INDICATED PARA 2 ABOVE, EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO START PRE-PROCESSING ANY EPP CASES UNTIL ADDITIONAL LOCAL PERSONNEL REQUESTED ARE ON BOARD. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALSO PARA 3 REFTEL (B), WE SUGGEST HIRING ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL BEGINNING MARCH 1, SETTING ASIDE SPECIAL HOURS EACH DAY FOR EPP, AND PRE-PROCESSING ALL APPLICANTS AS RAPIDLY AS WE CAN. INS OFFICER MIGHT THEN BEGIN FINAL INTERVIEWS ABOUT JUNE 1.
VAKY

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30 JUN 2005

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